NEWLY-ADDED CLAIMS IN CLEAN FORM

2. A soundtrack generator having at least a music auto-composition function for an image record or playback device, comprising:

an image record/playback device for recording or displaying one or more images;

an external audio source input;

a command input for receiving instructions; and

a sound generation module, wherein the sound generation module comprises a processor, one or more memory elements and a digital music synthesizer, wherein the one or more memory elements store sound samples, wherein the processor operates responsive to instructions received via the command input, wherein the digital music synthesizer is controlled to automatically compose music based on the stored sound samples;

wherein, in response to received instructions, a soundtrack is selectively provided during image display by the image record/playback device, wherein the soundtrack selectively consists at least in part of automatically composed music generated by the digital music synthesizer or sound signals received via the external audio source input.

3. The soundtrack generator of claim 2, further comprising a digital to analog conversion circuit receiving digitized sound from the sound generation module, wherein an output of the digital to analog conversion circuit is coupled to an audio output.

4. The soundtrack generator of claim 3, further comprising a summation circuit, wherein the summation circuit selectively combines sound signals from the external sound input with the output of the digital to analog conversion circuit, wherein an output of the summation circuit is coupled to the audio output.

5. The soundtrack generator of claim 2, wherein the stored sound samples comprise sounds from a plurality of predetermined instruments.

6. The soundtrack generator of claim 5, wherein the stored sound samples comprise one or a plurality of sound sample banks used by the digital music synthesizer.

7. The soundtrack generator of claim 2, wherein the instructions control the sound generation module to automatically compose music in accordance with a selected style of music.

8.	The soundtrack generator of claim 2, wherein the instructions control the sound generation module to automatically compose a plurality of musical compositions in a random or pseudo-random sequence.

9.	The soundtrack generator of claim 2, wherein first memory elements store the sound samples, second memory elements store a musical database for use with an autocomposition algorithm, and third memory elements store digitized musical files.

10.	The soundtrack generator of claim 9, wherein the digitized musical files comprise MP3 or CD music files.

11.	The soundtrack generator of claim 2, wherein the command input comprises switch inputs or a graphical interface on a display device.

12.	A soundtrack generator having at least a music auto-composition function for an image record or playback device, comprising:

an image record/playback device for recording or displaying one or more images;

a command input for receiving instructions; and

a sound generation module, wherein the sound generation module comprises a processor, one or more memory elements and a digital music synthesizer, wherein the one or more memory elements store sound samples, wherein the processor operates responsive to instructions received via the command input, wherein the digital music synthesizer is controlled to automatically compose music based on the stored sound samples;

wherein, in response to received instructions, a soundtrack is selectively provided during image display by the image record/playback device, wherein the soundtrack selectively consists at least in part of automatically composed music generated by the digital music synthesizer.

13.	The soundtrack generator of claim 12, further comprising a digital to analog conversion circuit receiving digitized sound from the sound generation module, wherein an output of the digital to analog conversion circuit is coupled to an audio output.

14.	The soundtrack generator of claim 13, further comprising a summation circuit, wherein the summation circuit selectively combines sound signals from an external sound input with the output of the digital to analog conversion circuit, wherein an output of the summation circuit is coupled to the audio output.

15.   The soundtrack generator of claim 12, wherein the stored sound samples comprise sounds from a plurality of predetermined instruments.

16.   The soundtrack generator of claim 15, wherein the stored sound samples comprise one or a plurality of sound sample banks used by the digital music synthesizer.

17.   The soundtrack generator of claim 12, wherein the instructions control the sound generation module to automatically compose music in accordance with a selected style of music.

18.   The soundtrack generator of claim 12, wherein the instructions control the sound generation module to automatically compose a plurality of musical compositions in a random or pseudo-random sequence.

19.   The soundtrack generator of claim 12, wherein first memory elements store the sound samples, second memory elements store a musical database for use with an autocomposition algorithm, and third memory elements store digitized musical files.

20.   The soundtrack generator of claim 19, wherein the digitized musical files comprise MP3 or CD music files.

21.   The soundtrack generator of claim 12, wherein the command input comprises switch inputs or a graphical interface on a display device.